

significant accomplishments of the FLA under his leadership will live on as one of his many contributions to a better, fairer world.

Statement on the Final Report of the E-Commerce Working Group

January 16, 2001

Today I am pleased to announce the release of the final report of my administration's E-commerce Working Group, "Leadership for the New Millennium, Delivering on Digital Progress and Prosperity." During my administration, America's economy and society have been transformed by new information and communications technologies. The information technology sector has accounted for almost one-third of U.S. economic growth and has helped spark an increase in U.S. productivity and global competitiveness.

Vice President Gore and I have worked hard to help Americans make the most of these new possibilities. We created a market-led approach to E-commerce that won acceptance around the world, promoted competition in the telecommunications industry, and increased our investment in the technologies of the 21st century. We strengthened the protection of personal information, especially sensitive medical and financial records. We helped to bridge the digital divide by ensuring that every child had the opportunity to become technologically literate. Thanks to the leadership of the Vice President, our Government is using the Internet to become more open, user-friendly, and efficient.

But we are still at the dawn of the information age, and much more remains to be done to grasp its potential. We should use technology to advance our oldest and deepest values—dramatically increasing the number of people with disabilities who can work, lifting more families out of poverty, and putting access to a world-class education and cutting-edge skills at the fingertips of every American. These are challenges that are worthy of our great Nation.

Statement on Reforms in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

January 16, 2001

I welcome the significant reforms in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) over the past several years, beginning with the distinguished tenure of Federico Mayor of Spain. Mr. Mayor helped to revitalize and refocus the organization on its core missions of promoting education for all, preserving our cultural heritage, and upholding freedom of the press. I also welcome the continued emphasis on these issues under UNESCO's current Director-General, Koichiro Matsuura, who has also taken significant steps to reform the organization.

For several years, we have indicated our willingness to consider rejoining UNESCO subject to reform efforts and the availability of funding. UNESCO's substantial progress on reform and the U.N. General Assembly's agreement on modification of assessments present the United States with a new opportunity to move forward on this issue.

Our participation in UNESCO would strengthen the organization's ability to deal with such issues as the digital divide, education for all, and international cooperation on scientific issues. It would also better enable us to ensure that the organization sustains the progress made in recent years.

For all of these reasons, I would encourage the incoming administration to include a request to fund UNESCO in its FY 2002 budget and thereby pave the way for reentry into this important organization.

Letter to Congressional Leaders on Review of Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996

January 16, 2001

Dear _____:

Pursuant to subsection 306(c)(2) of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-114), (the "Act"), I hereby determine and report to the Congress that suspension for